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25 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
26 **SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

27 **ANDREW MEESON,
28 INDIVIDUALLY AND ON BEHALF
OF ALL OTHERS SIMILARLY
SITUATED,**

29 Plaintiff,

30 v.

31 **GENERAL ELECTRIC CAPITAL
32 CORPORATION,**

33 Defendants.

34 Case No.: **'12CV2109 JLS KSC**
35
**CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR
36 DAMAGES**

37 **JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

38 ///

INTRODUCTION

1. ANDREW MEESON (“Plaintiff”) brings this class action for damages, injunctive relief, and any other available legal or equitable remedies, resulting from the illegal actions of GENERAL ELECTRIC CAPITAL CORPORATION and its related entities, subsidiaries and agents (“Defendant”) in willfully employing and/or causing to be employed certain recording equipment in order to record to the telephone conversations of Plaintiff without the knowledge or consent of Plaintiff, in violation of California Penal Code §§ 630 *et seq.*, thereby invading Plaintiff’s privacy. Plaintiff alleges as follows upon personal knowledge as to their own acts and experiences, and, as to all other matters, upon information and belief, including the investigation conducted by his attorneys.
2. California Penal Code § 632 prohibits one party to a telephone call from intentionally recording the conversation without the knowledge or consent of the other. Penal Code § 632 is violated the moment the recording is made without the consent of all parties thereto, regardless of whether it is subsequently disclosed. The only intent required by Penal Code § 632 is that the act of recording itself be done intentionally. There is no requisite intent on behalf of the party doing the surreptitious recording to break California or any other law, or to invade the privacy right of any other person. Plaintiff alleges that despite California’s two-party consent rule, Defendant continues to violate Penal Code § 632 by impermissibly recording its telephone conversations with California residents.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. Jurisdiction is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2) because Plaintiff, a resident of the State of California, seeks relief on behalf of a California class, which will result in at least one class member belonging to a different state than that of Defendants, a company incorporated in the State of Delaware and principal place of business in the State of Connecticut. Plaintiff also seeks the greater of statutory damages of \$5,000 per violation or three times actual damages per violation pursuant to Penal Code § 637.2(a), which, when aggregated among a proposed class number in the tens of thousands, exceeds the \$5,000,000 threshold for federal court jurisdiction. Therefore, both diversity jurisdiction

1 and the damages threshold under the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005 (“CAFA”) are
2 present, and this Court has jurisdiction.

3 4. Venue is proper in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California
4 pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1331(b) and 1441(a) because Defendant does business within the
5 State of California and the County of San Diego.

6 **PARTIES**

7 5. Plaintiff is, and at all times mentioned herein was, an individual citizen and resident of
8 the State of California.

9 6. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Defendant is, and at all times
10 mentioned herein was, a corporation whose principal place of business is Stamford,
11 Connecticut and State of incorporation is Delaware. Defendant has a policy and practice
12 of recording telephone conversations with the public, including California residents.
13 Defendant’s employees and agents are directed, trained and instructed to, and do, record,
14 the telephone conversations with the public, including California residents.

15 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

16 7. Defendant is, and at all times mentioned herein was, a professional corporation. Plaintiff
17 is informed and believes, and on the basis of that information and belief alleges, that at all
18 times mentioned in this Complaint, Defendants were the agents and employees of their
19 co-defendants, and in doing the things alleged in this Complaint, were acting within the
20 course and scope of that agency and employment.

21 8. At all times relevant, Plaintiff was an individual residing within the State of California.

22 9. Since July 2012, Plaintiff had numerous telephone communications with certain
23 employees, officers and/or agents of Defendant. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and
24 thereon alleges, that on certain occasions Defendant properly warns consumers that the
25 conversation will be recorded while on other occasions Defendant does not warn
26 consumers that the conversation is being recorded.

27 10. Specifically, on August 1, 2012, Defendant contacted Plaintiff by telephone in order to
28 inquire about an alleged debt for Plaintiff’s fiancé’s engagement ring that Defendant was

1 attempting to collect from Plaintiff. After speaking with Defendant for a period of time,
2 including discussions of Plaintiff's personal financial information, home address, and
3 social security number, Plaintiff inquired as to whether the conversation was being
4 recorded and Defendant responded for the first time that Defendant records all calls
5 between Defendant and consumers.

6 11. During each of these conversations with Defendant, Plaintiff discussed highly personal
7 and private financial information that Plaintiff had not openly discussed with others.

8 12. Plaintiff had no reasonable expectation that any of Plaintiff's telephone conversations
9 with Defendant would be recorded due to the private subject matter being discussed.

10 13. Plaintiff was shocked to discover that such a confidential communication was being
11 recorded by Defendant without Plaintiff's knowledge or consent since Plaintiff was
12 discussing the financing of Plaintiff's fiancé's engagement ring.

13 14. Plaintiff found Defendant's clandestine recording to be highly offensive due to the
14 delicacy of the topics discussed during said conversations.

15 15. Each of these conversations with Plaintiff, were without Plaintiff's knowledge or consent,
16 recorded by Defendant, causing harm and damage to Plaintiff. Prior to Plaintiff's query
17 on the matter, Plaintiff was never informed that Plaintiff's telephone calls were being
18 recorded. At no time during these calls did Plaintiff give consent for the telephone calls
19 to be recorded.

20 16. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that during the relevant time
21 period, Defendant has had a policy and a practice of recording telephone conversations
22 with consumers. Defendant's employees and agents are directed, trained and instructed
23 to, and do, record telephone conversations with the public, including Plaintiff and other
24 California residents.

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1 17. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that from the beginning of 2011 to
2 the present, Defendant has installed and/or caused to be installed certain recording
3 equipment in its employees' or agents' telephone lines. Defendant uses these devices to
4 record each and every telephone conversation on said telephone lines.

5 18. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that during the relevant time
6 period, Defendant has had all of its calls to the public, including those made to California
7 residents, recorded without the knowledge or consent of the public, including Plaintiff
8 and other California residents.

9 19. Defendant's conduct alleged herein constitutes violations of the right to privacy to the
10 public, including Plaintiff and other California residents, and California Penal Code § 630
11 *et seq.*

12 **CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS**

13 20. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of himself and on behalf of all others similarly
14 situated ("The Class").

15 21. Plaintiff represents, and is a member of, "The Class" defined as follows: "All persons in
16 California whose outbound telephone conversations were recorded without their consent
17 by Defendant within the four years prior to the filing of the original Complaint in this
18 action."

19 22. Defendant, and its employees and agents are excluded from The Class. Plaintiff does
20 not know the number of members in The Class, but believe this number to be in the tens
21 of thousands, if not more. Thus, this matter should be certified as a Class action to assist
22 in the expeditious litigation of this matter.

23 23. This suit seeks only damages and injunctive relief for recovery of economic injury on
24 behalf of The Class and it expressly is not intended to request any recovery for personal
25 injury and claims related thereto. Plaintiff reserves the right to expand The Class
26 definition to seek recovery on behalf of additional persons as warranted as facts are
27 learned in further investigation and discovery.

28

1 24. The joinder of The Class members is impractical and the disposition of their claims in the
2 Class action will provide substantial benefits both to the parties and to the Court. The
3 Class can be identified through Defendant's records.

4 25. There is a well-defined community of interest in the questions of law and fact involved
5 affecting the parties to be represented. The questions of law and fact to The Class
6 predominate over questions which may affect individual Class members, including the
7 following:

8 a. Whether Defendant has a policy of recording outgoing calls;
9 b. Whether Defendant discloses to callers and/or obtains their consent that their
10 outgoing telephone conversations were being recorded;
11 c. Whether Defendant's policy of recording outgoing calls constituted a violation of
12 California Penal Code §§ 632(a); and, 637.
13 d. Whether Plaintiff and The Class were damaged thereby, and the extent of damages
14 for such violations; and
15 e. Whether Defendants should be enjoined from engaging in such conduct in the future.

16 26. Plaintiff is asserting claims that are typical of The Class because every other member of
17 The Class, like Plaintiff, was exposed to virtually identical conduct and are entitled to the
18 greater of statutory damages of \$5,000 per violation or three times actual damages per
19 violation pursuant to Penal Code § 637.2(a).

20 27. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of The Class in that
21 Plaintiff has no interest antagonistic to any member of The Class. Plaintiff has retained
22 counsel experienced in handling class action claims to further ensure such protection.

23 28. Plaintiff and the members of The Class have all suffered irreparable harm as a result of
24 the Defendant's unlawful and wrongful conduct. Absent a class action, The Class will
25 continue to face the potential for irreparable harm. In addition, these violations of law
26 will be allowed to proceed without remedy and Defendant will likely continue such
27 illegal conduct. Because of the size of the individual Class member's claims, few, if any,
28 Class members could afford to seek legal redress for the wrongs complained of herein.

1 29. A class action is a superior method for the fair and efficient adjudication of this
2 controversy. Class-wide damages are essential to induce Defendant to comply with
3 federal and California law. The interest of The Class members in individually controlling
4 the prosecution of separate claims against Defendant is small because the maximum
5 statutory damages in an individual action for violation of privacy are minimal.
6 Management of these claims is likely to present significantly fewer difficulties than those
7 presented in many class claims.

8 30. Defendant has acted on grounds generally applicable to The Class, thereby making
9 appropriate final injunctive relief and corresponding declaratory relief with respect to The
10 Class as a whole.

11

12 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

13 **INVASION OF PRIVACY: VIOLATION OF PENAL CODE § 632**

14 31. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as
15 though fully stated herein.

16 32. Californians have a constitutional right to privacy. Moreover, the California Supreme
17 Court has definitively linked the constitutionally protected right to privacy within the
18 purpose, intent and specific protections of the Privacy Act, including specifically, Penal
19 Code § 632. “In addition, California’s explicit constitutional privacy provision (Cal.
20 Const., 1 § 1) was enacted in part specifically to protect California from overly intrusive
21 business practices that were seen to pose a significant and increasing threat to personal
22 privacy. (Citations omitted). Thus, Plaintiff believes that California must be viewed as
23 having a strong and continuing interest in the full and vigorous application of the
24 provisions of section 632 prohibiting the recording of telephone conversations without
25 the knowledge or consent of all parties to the conversation.

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28 ///

1 33. California Penal Code § 632 prohibits one party to a telephone call from intentionally
2 recording the conversation without the knowledge or consent of the other party. Penal
3 Code § 632 is violated the moment the recording is made without the consent of all
4 parties thereto, regardless of whether it is subsequently disclosed that the telephone call
5 was recorded. The only intent required by Penal Code § 632 is that the act of recording
6 itself be done intentionally. There is no requisite intent on behalf of the party doing the
7 surreptitious recording to break California law or any other law, or to invade the privacy
8 right of any other person.

9 34. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereupon alleges, that Defendant employed and/or
10 caused to be employed certain recording equipment on the telephone lines of all
11 employees, officers, directors, and managers of Defendant.

12 35. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereupon alleges, that all these devises were
13 maintained and utilized to record each and every outgoing telephone conversation over
14 said telephone lines.

15 36. Said recording equipment was used to record the telephone conversations of Plaintiff and
16 the members of The Class, all in violation of California Penal Code § 632.6(a).

17 37. At no time during which these telephone conversations were taking place between
18 Defendant or any employee, agent, manager, officer, or director of Defendant, and any
19 other person, did Defendant inform Plaintiff or any other member of The Class that the
20 recording of their telephone conversations were taking place and at no time did Plaintiff
21 or any other member of The Class consent to this activity.

22 38. Defendant, knowing that this conduct was unlawful and a violation of Plaintiff and the
23 members of The Class' right to privacy and a violation of California Penal Code § 630, *et*
24 *seq.*, did intrude on Plaintiff and the members of The Class' privacy by knowingly and/or
25 negligently and/or intentionally engaging in the aforementioned recording activities
26 relative to the telephone conversations between Plaintiff and The Class members, on the
27 one hand, and Defendant on the other hand, as alleged herein above.

28

1 39. Based on the foregoing, Plaintiff and the members of The Class are entitled to, and below
2 herein do pray for, their statutory remedies and damages, including but not limited to,
3 those set forth in California Penal Code § 637.2.

4 40. Because this case is brought for the purposes of enforcing important rights affecting the
5 public interest, Plaintiff and The Class seek recovery of their attorney's fees pursuant to
6 the private attorney general doctrine codified in Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5, or any
7 other statutory basis.

8 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

9 Wherefore, Plaintiff respectfully requests the Court grant Plaintiff and The Class
10 members the following relief against Defendant:

11 1. That this action be certified as a class action on behalf of The Class and Plaintiff
12 be appointed as the representative of The Class;

13 2. For the greater of statutory damages of \$5,000 per violation or three times actual
14 damage per violation pursuant to Penal Code § 637.2(a) for Plaintiff and each member of The
15 Class;

16 3. Injunctive relief in the form of an order requiring Defendant to disgorge all ill-
17 gotten gains and awarding Plaintiff and The Class full restitution of all monies wrongfully
18 acquired by Defendant by means of such unfair and unlawful conduct;

19 4. That the Court preliminarily and permanently enjoin Defendant from recording
20 each and every oncoming and outgoing telephone conversation with California resident,
21 including Plaintiff and The Class, without their prior consent, as required by California Penal
22 Code § 630, *et seq.*, and to maintain the confidentiality of the information of Plaintiff and
23 The Class;

24 5. For exemplary or punitive damages;

25 6. For costs of suit;

26 7. For prejudgment interest at the legal rate; and

27 8. For such further relief as this Court deems necessary, just, and proper.

28 ///

TRIAL BY JURY

Pursuant to the seventh amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America,
Plaintiff is entitled to, and demands, a trial by jury.

Date: August 27, 2012

KAZEROUNI LAW GROUP, APC

By: /s Abbas Kazerounian
Abbas Kazerounian

HYDE & SWIGART

By: /s Joshua B. Swigart
Joshua B. Swigart

KAZEROUNI LAW GROUP, APC
2700 N. Main Street, Ste. 1000
Santa Ana, California 92705

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

Andrew Meeson, Individually and on Behalf of all others Similarly Situated

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff San Diego, CA
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

Kazerouni Law group, APC; 2700 N. Main Street, Ste. 1000, Santa Ana, California 92705; (800)400-6808

DEFENDANTS

General Electric Capital Corporation

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Fairfield County, CT
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

'12CV2109 JLS KSC

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 U.S. Government Defendant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)
(For Diversity Cases Only)

Citizen of This State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4
Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

CONTRACT	TORT	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	CRIMINAL	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 610 Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> 620 Other Food & Drug <input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 630 Liquor Laws <input type="checkbox"/> 640 R.R. & Truck <input type="checkbox"/> 650 Airline Regs. <input type="checkbox"/> 660 Occupational Safety/Health <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROSECUTION RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	PRISONER PETITIONS <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/ Accommodations Habeas Corpus: <input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition	LAW <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act
			IMMIGRATION <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Habeas Corpus - Alien Detainee <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	SOCIAL SECURITY <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395f) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))
				FEDERAL TAX SUITS <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609
				<input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 892 Economic Stabilization Act <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 894 Energy Allocation Act <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes

V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

1 Original Proceeding 2 Removed from State Court 3 Remanded from Appellate Court 4 Reinstated or Reopened 5 Transferred from another district (specify) _____ 6 Multidistrict Litigation 7 Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judge

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):
California Penal Code §§ 630 et seq

Brief description of cause:
Invasion of Privacy; 5 : 552

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23 DEMAND \$ 5,000,001.00+ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND: Yes No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY (See instructions): JUDGE DOCKET NUMBER

DATE SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD
08/27/2012 s/Abbas Kazerounian

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT # AMOUNT APPLYING JPF JUDGE MAG. JUDGE

Print **Save As...** **Export as FDF** **Retrieve FDF File** **Reset**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44**Authority For Civil Cover Sheet**

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

I. (a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.

(b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)

(c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".

II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.C.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)

III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.

IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerks in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.

V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.

Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment. (7) Check this box for an appeal from a magistrate judge's decision.

VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553
Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service

VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

Demand. In this space enter the dollar amount (in thousands of dollars) being demanded or indicate other demand such as a preliminary injunction.

Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.

VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.